

**AMENDMENTS****In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 31-40. Please add new claims 41-45. Claims 31-45 are thus pending after entry of the amendment. The claim amendments are intended to expedite prosecution, do not narrow the scope of the originally filed claims, and are presented to correct typographical and form matters.

To satisfy the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121(c) and 37 CFR 1.52(a), all pending claims, whether or not amended, are presented below. A marked-up version of the amended claims showing the changes made to the amended claims follows the Remarks section of this Response.

Pending Claims 31-45:

31. (once amended) A method for managing a communications network, the communications network including a first management system and a second management system, the method comprising:

- (a) maintaining a first set of management information by the first management system;
- (b) maintaining a second set of management information by the second management system;
- (c) forwarding the first set of management information to the second management system;
- (d) based on the forwarded information, providing at least one probable cause file with data based on the forwarded information, and,
- (e) providing an analysis based on the first and second sets of management information and the at least one probable cause file.

32. (once amended) A method according to claim 31, further comprising sending an event message, in a data format compatible with the second management system, to the second management system.

33. (once amended) A method according to claim 32, wherein the event message is sent when the message relates to an entity managed by the second management system.

34. (once amended) A method according to claim 31, wherein the first management system includes a network management platform and the second management system includes a system management platform.

35. (once amended) A method according to claim 31, wherein providing includes correlating the first and second sets of management information.

36. (once amended) method according to claim 31, further comprising filtering management information from the first management system.

37. (once amended) A method according to claim 31, further comprising forwarding, in a data format compatible with the second management system, to the second management system.

38. (once amended) A method according to claim 31, where providing an analysis includes at least one of providing an alarm and taking corrective action.

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39. (once amended) A method according to claim 31, where providing an analysis includes displaying at least a part of the at least one probable cause file to a user.

40. (once amended) A method according to claim 31, wherein the at least one probable cause file includes text describing an affected network entity and problem.

41. (New) A method according to claim 31, where the at least one probable cause file includes at least one of: a begin event identifier, an event handle, a server handle, a date of reception of message, a text message, a severity, an end event identifier, and an event identifier.

42. (New) A method according to claim 31, where providing at least one probable cause file includes at least one of: selecting one of the at least one probable cause file based on a network entity, and creating a new probable cause file based on a network entity.

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43. (New) A method according to claim 31, where providing at least one probable cause file with data includes at least one of: updating the at least one probable cause file, erasing at least part of the at least one probable cause file, clearing at least part of the at least one probable cause file, and creating a new entry in the at least one probable cause file.

44. (New) A method according to claim 31, where the at least one probable cause file is accessible to at least one of the first management system and the second management system.

45. (New) A method according to claim 31, where the second management system includes a network management platform and the first management system includes a system management platform.